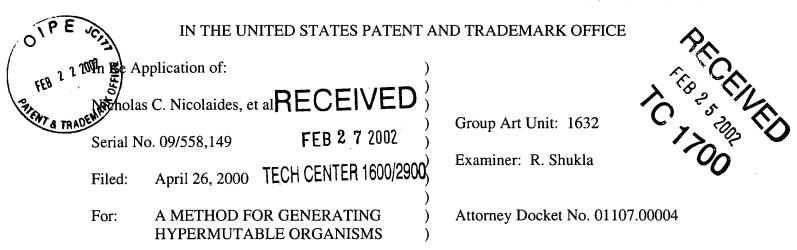
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## PATENT APPLICATION



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of good faith and candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) Applicants submit herewith copies of documents cited on the attached Form PTO 1449.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and enter these documents into the file of the above-identified application. No fee is believed to be due to ensure consideration and entry of the cited documents by the Examiner. However, if a fee is deemed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 2**1**, 2002

Sarah A. Kagan

Registration No. 32,141

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD 1001 G Street, N.W. Eleventh Floor Washington, D.C. 20001-4597 (202) 508-9100

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

C mplete if Known

Application Number 09/558,149

Filing Date April 26, 2000

First Named Inventor Nicholas C. Nicolaides et al.

Group Art Unit 1632

Examiner Name R. Shukla

(use as many sheets as necessary)

et 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number 001107.00004

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Examiner Initials *	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Τ <sup>6</sup>			
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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional) . <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04.
<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.